

A few years ago, Jenny passed on her MOPS leadership baton and began serving as the chairperson for the education program in her church. As chairperson, Jenny spurred a program to have educational activities available during parent-teacher conferences in order to help parents attend the conferences. Jenny also volunteers each week at the local pregnancy resource center and coordinates the center's annual banquet. Not only does Jenny excel at serving her community, she has done so even while her husband, Noah, a Montana Army National Guard pilot, was gone for nearly a year conducting missions in southwest Asia.

Montana is a State with many unsung heroes, and people like Jenny are the community glue that make Montana a great place to raise a family. For her efforts to serve, educate, and inspire those around her, Montana is sincerely thankful. Thank you, Jenny.●

REMEMBERING COLONEL EDWIN DON STRICKFADEN

● Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, my colleague Senator MIKE CRAPO joins me today in honoring the life of Colonel Edwin Don Strickfaden, who dedicated 35 years to protecting the citizens of Idaho through his service in Idaho law enforcement.

Colonel Strickfaden led the Idaho State Police, ISP, with distinction, serving as director when two Idaho law enforcement agencies were combined to form one ISP and leading the force to accomplish many law enforcement successes furthering the security of our communities. Current Idaho State Police director Colonel Ralph Powell recognized Colonel Strickfaden as a "champion for all law enforcement throughout the state," and a "charismatic leader" who "worked tirelessly to keep us safe." Colonel Strickfaden—Ed to most of us—joined Idaho law enforcement in 1967 after serving 4 years in the U.S. Air Force. A native Idahoan, Ed was born on August 3, 1945, to Don and Ruth Strickfaden in Nez Perce, ID, and served many communities throughout Idaho before retiring in 2002 making a home with his wife, Barbara, in Salmon, ID. Barbara has worked for my Gubernatorial and U.S. Senate offices, which has given us more opportunities to interact with this remarkable Idahoan.

Colonel Strickfaden was known for his thoughtful, reasoned, and inspiring leadership. Although this example of his bravery and devotion to helping others was already highlighted in a 2003 CONGRESSIONAL RECORD statement, it is worthy of repeating as it is emblematic of how he served. Colonel Strickfaden was honored by then-Governor Cecil Andrus for diving into the icy December waters of the Clearwater River to rescue a woman from a submerged vehicle. His sense of duty and clear empathy for the people he served was an outstanding example to many.

Colonel Strickfaden made an extraordinary difference in the lives of Ida-

hoans he served and the many who knew him. We thank him for his outstanding service as we join his family, including Barbara and their beloved children, grandchildren, and great-grandchild and many friends in mourning his passing and honoring his loving legacy.●

TRIBUTE TO HOT SHOTS INC.

● Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, known for its diverse natural resources and awe-inspiring landscapes, Idaho is a place of countless possibilities, where citizens with determination and ambition can lay the foundation for their own success. I am particularly proud of my home State's entrepreneurs who continue to pioneer new enterprises that bring our communities together and inspire a creative spirit in Idahoans across the State. These traits are well represented in this month's Small Business of the Month. As chairman of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, I am pleased to honor Hot Shots Inc. delivery service as the Senate Small Business of the Month for March 2017.

Founded by Lance and Mary Curtis, Hot Shots Inc. is a family-owned and operated small business headquartered in Boise, ID. The innovative vision of the company is driven by a management team with over 50 years of combined experience in courier services. Hot Shots Inc. has provided delivery services in the Boise area since 1998. Their offerings are distinct in that they are capable of delivering anything from small parcels to large freight throughout the Treasure Valley, Sun Valley, Magic Valley, and Twin Falls, all with a same-day guarantee. Over the years, this company has earned and maintained a high level of trust in the Boise area, as is evident through their special delivery service which allows them to access a number of secure locations such as corporate, banking, medical, government, and military sites. Part of what makes Hot Shots Inc. a successful enterprise is its use of modern technology, specifically its utilization of an online ordering system, a GPS package tracking system, and an email notification system. The company has adapted with technological advances, making all of these changes to support mobile transactions. All of these advances help instill confidence in every customer that his or her package, parcel, or shipment will arrive on time. This commitment to customer service has helped the company excel in its field and allowed Hot Shots Inc. to enter new markets such as warehousing.

Hot Shots Inc. has been a pillar of the community since they first opened their doors. This family-run business has displayed its commitment to the Boise community in a variety of ways, whether by delivering diapers for the Idaho Diaper Bank or through their support of the Idaho Foodbank Backpack Program, among other commu-

nity service activities. I would like to extend my sincerest congratulations to Lance and Mary Curtis and the employees of Hot Shots Inc. for being chosen as the March 2017 Small Business of the Month. You make our great State proud, and I look forward to watching your continued growth and success.●

150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PURCHASE OF ALASKA

● Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, today, March 30, marks that 150th anniversary of the date when President Andrew Johnson signed the treaty with Russia for the purchase of Alaska. It is a big day for my State, and for the past few months, I have been diving into the archives and doing some research about the treaty and about the first few years of challenges following the signing. As you can imagine, building a State out of a frontier, particularly one so far away from the rest of the country and in such an extreme climate, was challenging, to say the least. It demanded, and still does, a certain kind of person with a certain kind of toughness, vision, and a determination to work for the good of all. Let me give you an example of what it has required.

Some members of the first territorial legislature in 1913—46 years after the purchase—who lived in far flung places faced a challenge. Specifically how to get to Juneau to begin to hash out creating the rules of a new territory.

Of course, there were no commercial airlines in those days—no snow machines, so four members from Nome—lawyers, miners, and businessmen—hitched up their dog teams, headed to Valdez, and took a steamship to Juneau. It took them nearly 2 months to get there. When they did arrive, the first order of business was this: granting women the right to vote, 7 years before Congress ratified the 19th Amendment.

That is the heritage of every one in Alaska, and that is the same spirit, of traveling far against the odds, to do what is right, that still animates my great State. It animates people who haven't even been to Alaska. My State is more than a place with set geographic boundaries. My State is also an idea, a dream; it goes beyond borders and represents so much about America that we hold dear: beauty, freedom, self-sufficiency. It has been this way even before Alaska became a territory—when a group of people, led by former Secretary of State William Seward, pushed the country to buy Alaska from Russia for \$7.2 million. As has been proven, that was a good deal.

Every week, I have been coming down to recognize an Alaskan of the Week, a special person who gives their time, energy, and talents to making our State the best in the country.

Today I want to speak about someone who I will call an honorary Alaskan. Today I would like to name Senator Charles Sumner our posthumous Alaskan of the Week. Senator Sumner